



**Media Contact:**

*Barbi Brewer-Watson*

Executive Director

Economic & Community Development Agency

815.933.0506

[yourvoice@citykankakee-il.gov](mailto:yourvoice@citykankakee-il.gov)

***FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE***

**ECDA, NEW YORK LIFE, AND STILL I RISE HOST NEXT WORKSHOP IN FINANCIAL LITERACY SERIES**

KANKAKEE, Ill. (March 28, 2022) – Next Saturday, April 2nd, 2022, the Economic and Community Development Agency along with Dustin Prince of New York Life Insurance Company and the local nonprofit organization Still I Rise will be hosting the second workshop in their ongoing financial literacy series. Community members of any age are invited to come learn about the importance of financial topics such as investments, life insurance, and budgeting. The “Bo\$\$ Budgeting II” workshop will take place at the 3rd floor Library Suite of the Kankakee Public Library located at 201 E Merchant St in Kankakee.

“The collaboration between Still I Rise, ECDA, and NYL has been paramount to helping our organizations meet our goals.”, said Tocarra Robinson, Executive Director of Still I Rise. “We are committed to educating and empowering citizens in the community which will increase their wealth and improve their health.”

The Financial Industry Regulatory Authority Foundation study on American’s financial capability in 2019 showed that despite the strong economy at the time the wealth gap was widening. At the time 46% of Americans had the ability to save money and 53% reported anxiety just thinking about their finances. The pandemic starting in 2020 has created more hardships for people and increased stress surrounding financial understanding, especially within low-income peoples and people of color. <https://www.finra.org/investors/insights/finra-foundation-national-study-financial-prosperity-eludes-many-americans-despite-economy>

“I am grateful for the opportunity to share financial concepts with anyone interested in taking greater control of their personal finances. We do not need to be “rich” to grow our wealth and I look forward to helping people

understand that,” said NYL Financial Services Professional Dustin Prince.

A light lunch will be served. For more information and to reserve your lunch please RSVP by emailing [yourvoice@citykankakee-il.gov](mailto:yourvoice@citykankakee-il.gov) or calling the ECDA office at 815-933-0506.

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**About the Economic and Community Development Agency (ECDA):**

The Kankakee Economic and Community Development Agency (ECDA) is a local government agency whose mission is to improve the lives of Kankakee residents and enhance the economic vitality of communities through housing, economic development and community development. The ECDA administers programs that serve the neighborhoods and residents of the City of Kankakee provided by federal, state and local funding. For more information, contact ECDA at 815-933-0506, Monday – Friday between 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Visit our website at <https://ecda.citykankakee-il.gov/>.

**About the City of Kankakee, Illinois:**

The City of Kankakee is dedicated to protecting, building and nurturing the community while enhancing lives. We are a historic, vibrant and active riverfront community. We continue to transform into an extraordinary place to dream, grow and thrive. Embracing our diversity, we strive to be progressive, inclusive and innovative. For more information on the City of Kankakee, please visit the website at [www.citykankakee-il.gov](http://www.citykankakee-il.gov).